Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all previous versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (presently amended) An anti-microbial filter~~fabric~~, comprising:

a multi-layer filter material~~article~~, said material~~article~~ being made at least in part of a multi-component fiber of thermoplastic polymers, including

a core of thermoplastic polymer being at least 20 and less than 70% of the fiber by weight, and

a sheath being more than 30% of the fiber by weight and including (i) a thermoplastic polymer and (ii) ~~an~~ zeolitic anti-microbial/anti-fungal inorganic additive being from 0.1% to 20% by weight of fiber, the thickness of the sheath in microns being approximately two times the nominal particle size in microns of the additive.

2. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least a part of an air filter.

3. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least a part of a water filter.

4. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, wherein an anti-odor agent is added to the fiber.

5. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, wherein at least one layer has the anti-microbial fiber, said layer being on the intended upstream side of the other layers.

6. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least part of a car wash material.

7. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least part of a filter or a batt in a car wash water recycle storage tank.

8. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least in part a mop head fabric.

9. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least in part a dust mask.

10. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least in part a humidifier evaporation surface media and/or a circulation/ aeration system pad.

11. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 1, forming at least in part a boat bilge anti-microbial pad.

12. (presently amended) An anti-microbial filter~~fabric~~, comprising:

a multi-layer filter material~~article~~, said material~~article~~ being made of a bi-component fiber, including

a core of a high tenacity polymer being at least 20 and less than 70% of the fiber by weight, and

a sheath of a hydrolysis resistant polymer being at least 30% of the fiber by weight, and including an additive ranging from 0. 1 % to 20 % by weight of the fiber and being selected from the group consisting of pigments, compounds creating a hydrophilic surface, and anti-microbial, anti-fungal and anti-odor materials.

13. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least a part of an air filter.

14. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least a part of a water filter.

15. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, wherein an anti-odor agent is added to the fiber.

16. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, wherein at least one layer has the anti-microbial fiber, said layer being on the intended upstream side of the other layers.

17. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least part of a car wash material.

18. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least part of a filter or a batt in a car wash water recycle storage tank.

19. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least in part a mop head fabric.

20. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least in part a dust mask.

21. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least in part a humidifier evaporation surface media and/or a circulation/ aeration system pad.

22. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 12, forming at least in part a boat bilge anti-microbial pad.

23. (presently amended) An anti-microbial filter~~fabric~~, comprising:

a multi-layer filter material~~article~~, including:

a binder fiber made from low temperature polymer with a melting or softening temperature below 200 degrees C.,

~~an~~ zeolitic anti-microbial additive of an inorganic compound made from a metal chosen from the group consisting of copper, zinc, tin and silver added to the binder fiber, the additive ranging from 0.1 to 20% by weight of the fiber, and

fibers which are free of anti-microbial additive being blended with said binder fiber, said blend of fibers having been heated to its melting temperature, thereby providing a fiber blend which can be used to produce an anti-microbial finished fabric able to withstand significant wear and washings and maintain its effectiveness.

24. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least a part of an air filter.

25. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least a part of a water filter.

26. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, wherein an anti-odor agent is added to the fiber.

27. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, wherein at least one layer has the anti-microbial fiber, said layer being on the intended upstream side of the other layers.

28. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least part of a car wash material.

29. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least part of a filter or a batt in a car wash water recycle storage tank.

30. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least in part a mop head fabric.

31. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least in part a dust mask.

32. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least in part a humidifier evaporation surface media and/or a circulation/ aeration system pad.

33. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, forming at least in part a boat bilge anti-microbial pad.

34. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, wherein the fibers which are free of anti-microbial additive are cotton.

35. (presently amended) The filter~~fabric~~ of claim 23, wherein the binder fiber is made of PETG.